

# Dawson Neighborhood News

Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association  
and Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team  
[www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org](http://www.dawsonneighborhoodassociation.org)

May/June 2025

## City Votes to Amend Dawson Future Land Use Map

— Julie Woods, DNA President

Many of us have been paying attention to the latest city action in the south end of our neighborhood, especially in the area at South Congress and Ben White. The city is in the process of applying for federal transit development grants and one of their areas of interest are the two transit centers, which are currently serving as park and ride stations for CapMetro buses. Other cities have created areas covered by an Equitable Transit Oriented Development plan, in which an area is upzoned in order to create more amenities that will draw transit users to a more walkable, densely populated district near light rail and other transit. On May 22, the Austin City Council passed the Station Area Vision Plan for both the South Congress and North Lamar transit centers. As a result, part of our neighborhood has been removed from the Dawson Future Land Use Map. More information will become available when the city posts the ordinance as adopted.

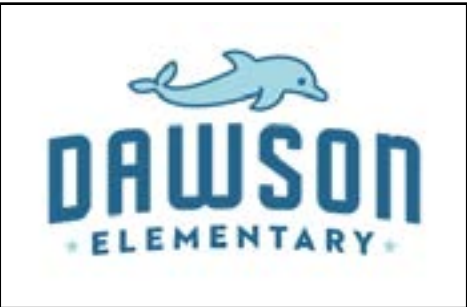
Many of us in the neighborhood were concerned about this change. We should remember, though, that we still have the ability to affect how these properties are developed. The removal of the area's properties from the Dawson FLUM does NOT, eliminate neighborhood feedback in the case of zoning changes, which would be required for any major changes.

The area, which runs from Alpine to Ben White, includes various businesses and the detention ponds on Alpine, which are important for flood prevention in our neighborhood. The land where the ponds are located is city property, so we can hope that any move to sell or rezone that property will be brought to our attention, per requirements under state law and city ordinances.

Please note that in the wake of the recent state legislative session, we may find that we are not going to be receiving the usual mailed notices regarding zoning changes or have as much time to respond to any proposed changes. It's too soon to know how these laws will affect how the city handles these cases but we'll watch closely.



## Thanks to Our Sponsor



Dawson Elementary serves children ages 3 to 12 years.

Please contact Dawson's office at 512-698-9151, to set up a time for a tour.

### Editor:

Eliot Kimber,  
[drmacro@gmail.com](mailto:drmacro@gmail.com)

## Dawson Neighborhood List Serve: Groups.io

<https://groups.io/g/dawsonneighborhoodassociation>

## Find Us On Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/DawsonNeighborhoodAssociation>

## Next Meeting

Monday, June 9, 6:30  
Twin Oaks Library, 1800 S.  
Fifth St.

## Agenda

### Neighborhood Association

1. City of Austin 2026 Bond election is coming up; citizens can learn more and share their thoughts here: <https://publicinput.com/bond2026>
2. Mopac expansion raises environmental concerns
3. DB90: MANY more filings in council district 3

### Plan Contact Team

1. Gillis Pool opens June 9th
2. Saw city workers working on the Park fields
3. Austin's Citywide Lighting Plan
4. HEB, Oltorf and SC only area in DN
5. South Congress Transit Center Station Area Vision Plan revisited
6. Pedestrian needs on SC and Lessin cut through
7. Problems with area FLUM map may not make clear
8. Begin discussion on the new FLUM area plans to make the area more pedestrian and safe
9. Swedish Hill Bakery and Dish society new to area

We meet on the 2nd Monday of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

**Remembering Jackie Goodman**

Many of us were sad to learn of the passing of Jackie Goodman, who served as an Austin city council member for 12 years starting in the late '90s. She was an effective advocate for environmental concerns in Austin, working toward the passage of the Save Our Springs ordinance and serving on the Save Barton Creek Association. As a council member, she advocated for an effective working relationship among city staff, neighborhoods, and developers to reach a positive outcome for all those involved. She is remembered as an advocate for those whose voices would otherwise go unheard.

**South Austin Neighborhood Center to Reopen in July**

Good news! The South Austin Neighborhood Center on Durwood, next to Gillis Park, is set to reopen in early July. It's been closed for renovations and we're pleased that the work is nearly complete. In case you didn't already know, the city's neighborhood centers offer a lot of vital services

for city residents. Registered nurses are available to provide basic health screenings like blood pressure, blood sugar and pregnancy tests. Neighborhood centers have staff members who can help you find a job or apply for public benefits; rent and utility bill assistance is also available; and referrals for medical care or other services. Neighborhood centers operate food banks, have free bus passes, and hold free children's car safety seat events, which include proper installation. Many people feel uncomfortable asking for help, but the city's neighborhood centers are there to help everyone. If they refer you to another service provider, they will stay with you until you've made contact with a live person who can help. This kind of "warm hand-off" makes a world of difference if you've been struggling with bureaucracy and all the frustration that often entails. For more information, call 211 and they can put you in touch with one of seven neighborhood centers in Austin. After July 8, call 512-972-7840 or stop by the South Austin Neighborhood Center at 2508 Durwood.



June flowers

**Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Association, April 14, 2025**

6:30 at South Austin Rec Center, 1100 Cumberland Rd.  
Julie Woods, President called the meeting to order after DNPCT meeting.  
1. February minutes approved.  
2. Gillis Park survey is ongoing.  
3. Property tax valuation appeal deadline is May 15.  
  
Meeting adjourned

**Minutes of Dawson Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, April 14, 2025**

April 2025 DNCPT Meeting notes

- The DNA/DNPCT Meeting held at South Austin Neighborhood Center.
- Approval was made of the DNPCT February 2025 meeting notes.
- City planners for the South Congress Transit Center Station Area Vision Plans met with DNA/DNPCT to present their plans to expand SCTC property usage by adding a MU development zone code with affordability to the property. This plan will also mean that a .5 mile area from this property be removed from the Dawson Neighborhood FLUM on the south side. They are doing this project along with Cap Metro, which owns the transit property and with the understanding that the area will also be upgraded to encourage more pedestrian usage in this new FLUM area. Neighbors reiterated that the East Bouldin Creek property on West Alpine is a water retention pond for flood control and should not be considered for redevelopment. Property zoning for the new FLUM area will not be changed without notice. The Planning Commission Hearing and Discussion will vote on this plan at their next meeting which happens to be on Thursday, April 22.